

Sequence of counsel than interest in the outcome of the case. At no time today were there over a hundred souls in the courtroom. The case and Philip Strother entered several minutes before the jury.

James's face this morning indicated the long strain he has undergone. He looked worn and tired. His wife was with him. In her face also were the signs of worry and sleepless nights for a long time. Immediately after the jury was polled, on entering the box, Judge Harrison committed to them the indictment, the instructions, the latter written by Viola Strother, and the one written to Jim by Philip, telling him to come home, and a telegram from Philip to James, telling him to come at once.

**Good Day for Virginia.**

"My first thought," said Mr. Moore, of counsel for defense, "is that it is a good day for Virginia. That on such a defense as was introduced in this case a Virginia jury was able to bring in a verdict of not guilty. In consideration of the maintenance of the home-life in Virginia, as it has always been maintained, no good man in the Commonwealth can find fault with the verdict."

Mr. Moore alluded to the fact this afternoon that there had been some criticism of Judge Harrison because of one of the instructions given the jury. "The judge simply told the jury," said Mr. Moore, "that he had given them the law governing the case, and it was for them to decide all questions of fact."

It was for the jury to decide whether the defendants were emotionally insane at the time of the killing. The instruction which has been criticized was taken verbatim from those given the jury in the case of *State vs. Harrison*, in which the young man who found his sister in a disorderly house in Danville shot her dead, and was acquitted.

The lawyers in the case which ended today agree in saying that no judge ever presided over a more orderly and fair trial than that of Judge Harrison.

**James Strother Nervous.**

At 9:40 the jury retired to their room upstairs. James Strother gave slight signs of nervousness while the jury was deliberating, but Philip showed none.

Defendants' counsel and several kinsmen and friends surrounded them, and evidently cheered their spirits. Probably neither expected a conviction, but the element of doubt is not so large in any matter of life as in the verdict which will be reached by twelve men in a jury-room. It was a deeply significant fact that neither of the defendants showed nearly so much nervousness while the jury was deliberating as was shown by the wife of James Strother. At first she tried to talk with those gathered about her, but soon she lapsed into silence, sitting with her head bowed, her husband for the most part, occasionally gazing anxiously into the faces of counsel for the defense, but saying no word.

When the jury had been out an hour it was believed to be almost certain that they would reach a disagreement. This belief was strengthened as the minutes dragged on, and when the tramp of feet was heard on the stairway leading down from the jury-room few expected other than an announcement of failure to agree.

The jury was polled. At 11:10 o'clock, precisely an hour and a half from the time the jury went to their room, Clerk Coons asked: "Gentlemen of the jury, have you agreed upon a verdict?"

"We have," was the prompt reply of M. A. Price, who had been chosen foreman, and he arose to his feet and handed an envelope to the clerk.

**Even Clerk Nervous.**

Mr. Coons did not succeed in concealing his trepidation as he opened the envelope. He read: "We, the jury, find the defendants not guilty." A few persons cheered faintly, but Judge Harrison reined for a moment, and the chief clerk demanded silence. Then ensued the scenes described above.

It was half an hour after the jury returned the verdict before the defendants succeeded in getting away from the courtroom and to the Virginia House, where they lodged. Throughout the entire afternoon there was an unending stream of callers, and probably 200 telegrams came to the boys from all over Virginia, and from other States, congratulating them on the verdict of acquittal.

Philip Strother retired to his room soon after leaving the courtroom. He is not yet well by any means, and the attending physician fears an attack of fever. James Strother remained in his room for several hours, attended by many friends.

**But One Ballot Taken.**

He did not care to discuss the trial to any extent. He was glad he had had a fair trial, and he expressed his appreciation of the fidelity of his friends. He will return to Welch, Va., his home, on Sunday. The jury was agreed from the first. One of the twelve men, Mr. Jantz, an unmarried man, had some doubts regarding the verdict they should bring in under one of the instructions given, but when the point was discussed and explained he readily agreed that the verdict should be one of acquittal. I asked one of the jurors upon what ground their verdict was based.

"I am not certain it would be proper to reply to that question," he said. "Was it the plea of emotional insanity?" I asked.

"No," was the prompt reply. "Not one of the jury believed in that doctrine. But one of the instructions told us we should dismiss from our minds all prejudice towards that as a plea for the defense."

He paused a moment, and then added: "The sum and substance of the whole matter was we recognized the principle that a man has the right to defend the purity of his own home."

Another of the jurors remarked: "I have a family at home. I should not have waited as long as the Strother boys waited."

If the verdict of the jury is received with dissatisfaction here, the fact is not apparent. Of course, friends of the slain man cannot be expected to approve it, but they are silent, expressing their sentiments of disapproval in the quietude of their homes. From the first there has been evident on both sides of this now celebrated case a wonderful amount of restraint and forbearance, which gives surety that the trouble is ended so far as the two families concerned are concerned. The attitude of the Commonwealth was well indicated by the statement of Captain Woods: "I had rather have this verdict than a hung jury. I came here to have made a thorough investigation of this case. I think I have

**SEVEN MEN HOLD UP CHANCELLERY**

**Secured Twenty Thousand Dollars and Got Away Without Killing a Policeman.**

MOSCOW, March 7.—A daring hold-up occurred at the university here today. While officials were being paid off in the chancellery, seven armed men entered, threatened all present with pistols and demanded the money. The intruders then fired in the air, seized \$20,000 and escaped, killing a sergeant of police whom they met at the door as he was about to enter the building.

The university is now surrounded by police and all the houses in the vicinity are being searched.

**Richmonders in New York.**

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

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**Curzon-Rosebery Contest.**

LONDON, March 7.—An interesting contest is imminent between Lord Curzon and Lord Rosebery for the vacant chancellorship of Oxford University.

It has been supposed that Lord Curzon, who was nominated to the office some days ago, would be returned without opposition, but now Lord Rosebery also has accepted a nomination, and the matter will be decided on March 14th, when the election will be held.

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**Hood's Sarsaparilla**

Which has cured thousands

"Berry's for Clothes."

**PRICES**



The three essential points for a practical overcoat—length—warmth—the waterproof quality.

We are making this week a specialty in this kind of a garment.

In addition the coats have these three points.

STYLE—FIT—and FINE WORKMANSHIP—price, \$28. THIS WEEK, \$17.75.

Now, if you want luxury—here are three more points.

SILK LINING—VELVET COLLAR and IMPORTED CLOTH—these \$35 and \$40. THIS WEEK, \$24.75.

**O.H. Berry & Co.**

MEN'S & BOYS' CLOTHIERS

done my duty. My conscience is void of offense."

**National Ginners.**

MEMPHIS, TENN., March 7.—The Association of National Ginners will on the afternoon of March 12th issue a report showing the amount of cotton ginned up to March 2d.

**SELLS HIS WIFE FOR SIX DOLLARS**

**Then Asks Board of Charities to Care for Poor Children.**

ROME, N. Y., March 7.—Lawrence Weir, of this place, today made application to Superintendent Graves, of the Board of Charities, to have his four children placed in some institution. Weir admitted to the superintendent that he had yesterday sold his wife for \$6 to a man at Highland Mills, two miles above Rome.

The wife consented to the transfer. Weir has six children, besides the four at home. One is working in a cigar factory and one is with relatives in New London. Weir is about forty-five years old, and is employed in a brass mill.

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The letter follows:

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**SCIATIC TORTURE**

A Locomotive Engineer Tells How He Was Cured by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.

Pain that seemed almost unbearable in a characteristic of sciatic phlegmasia. In some cases the pain is knife-like, sharp or shooting; in others it is dull and aching. Sciatica is stubborn, resisting treatment and the patient frequently suffers for years. This was the case with Mr. Herbert B. Spaulding, a locomotive engineer on the Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific Railway, whose home is at Longview, Texas.

"While running an engine some years ago," he says, "I fell off and hurt my knee and spine and I have always considered this to be the cause of my illness. The sciatica took hold of me from my heel to the back of my head. The pain was the worst I ever suffered in my life and my leg and back were twisted out of shape. I was under a physician's care for several months and for six months could not get out of bed. I also went to Hot Springs but came back in a worse condition than when I went."

"It was when I was down in bed that I heard of the case of a Mr. Allison, a 'cotton picker' than myself, who had been cured of sciatica by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I began taking the pills and soon was able to get out of bed. When I had taken six boxes I was able to work about the house and yard. I kept right on with the pills until I was cured and I have never had any return of the trouble. I have been running an engine ever since."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills are sold by all druggists, or sent, postpaid, on receipt of price, 50 cents per box, six boxes for \$2.50, by Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Schenectady, N. Y.

**DR. BUTLER WEDS.**

**President of Columbia University Takes New York Bride.**

NEW YORK, March 7.—Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University, and Miss Kate La Montagne, a daughter of Augustus La Montagne, were married at 12:30 o'clock Tuesday in the home of her sister, Mrs. Charles E. Quincey, Jr., at 815 Madison Ave., New York.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Neil N. McKinnon, S. J., of the Church of St. Ignace Loyola, in the presence of a large number of guests, including friends of the bride and bridegroom, and afterward there was a wedding breakfast, served at small tables in the dining-room. The bride was escorted to the drawing-room, where the marriage took place, by her brother-in-law, Mr. Pendleton, and, like Dr. Butler, she had no attendants.

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**CHILD SUES CHILD FOR BIG ESTATE**

Contest Over Ford Will Begun by Filing of Bill Here Yesterday.

**MANY INTRICATE QUESTIONS**

Chief Point Is Whether B. W. Ford Possessed Vested or Contingent Interest.

One of the most interesting suits begun in this city for years was instituted yesterday in the Chancery Court of the city of Richmond, involving construction of the will of the late A. J. Ford, a veteran Richmond hotel man, whose son, Bolling W. Ford, died recently in Elizabeth City, N. C. A bill in chancery was filed by Estelle Madeline Ford, an infant, who sues by her mother, Rosa Ryan Ford, va Charles Thompson Herndon and others. The action is for her father's interest in the estate of A. J. Ford, grandfather of the complainant, the value of this interest being estimated at \$50,000 to \$75,000. McGuire, Rely & Bryan are counsel for the complainant in the case.

The suit is really against Charles Thompson Herndon, an infant, the child of Mrs. Mary Lee Herndon, of Columbia, S. C., a sister of the decedent, to whom the said B. W. Ford devised his interest in the estate of his father, and against George B. White, administrator of the estate. The real question involved in the suit is whether B. W. Ford died possessed of a vested or a contingent interest in the estate of his father, A. J. Ford. If his interest was contingent, then the complainant in this suit claims a one-fourth share of the estate.

**Reviews History of Estate.**

The bill in the case is a document of twenty or more typewritten pages, and reviews the history of the Ford estate and the litigation thereunder, which has covered a long period of years. The widow of A. J. Ford, still living, but in precarious health, and her estate is being administered by a committee. It has been so administered for a number of years. The older Ford made a fortune in the hotel business in this city, being in his day one of the most successful hoteliers in the South. He died unmarried and intestate. His daughter, Florence, married Charles E. Quincey, and has one son, Charles E. Quincey, Jr., under age. Another daughter, Mary Lou, first married J. P. Herndon and his one son, Charles Thompson Herndon, to whom B. W. Ford bequeathed his interest in his father's estate. She is now the wife of W. C. Beest, of Columbia, S. C. The other child is Stewart H. Ford, of this city.

The estate of A. J. Ford, originally conveyed in trust for the benefit of his wife and children, is still in the custody of a trustee appointed by the equity court of this city. Under the terms of the trust only the proceeds of the fund may be used for the maintenance of the estate, so that the property has thus been left intact and has steadily increased in value through judicious investment of the principal by the trustees. A second trust deed, extending to the fund, was executed, but this was held to be invalid by the court.

The contention of the complainant is that she is entitled to the share of her father in the estate of her grandfather, and not of a contingent share. One of the four children of the older Ford, having died intestate, his share in the trust estate was held by the trustee in trust for the child who was then a minor. If the child who was then a minor in this suit is entitled to share in the estate, she will be entitled to a large amount.

**Interesting Case.**

It is an interesting feature of the suit that if the contention of the complainant is sustained by the court, the estate of her father, A. J. Ford, will be divided into two parts. One part will be left intact and has steadily increased in value through judicious investment of the principal by the trustees. A second trust deed, extending to the fund, was executed, but this was held to be invalid by the court.